Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service
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West Lafayette, IN 47906-4145
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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 15

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Cool, wet weather continued to be the pattern for the week. Farmers in the southern regions of the state are having a very difficult time this season trying to get corn and soybeans planted, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Many farmers are now trying to decide on taking preventing planting for this year. Getting hay cut and baled has also been hindered by the frequent showers and thunderstorms. Winter wheat condition is being affected by the wet weather. Head scab is showing up in some wheat fields. Soybean planting remains far behind average, but is one day ahead of last year's pace.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 2.7 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Ninety-four percent of the intended **corn** acreage is planted compared with 96 percent last year and 99 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 100 percent of the corn acreage is planted in the north, nearly 100 percent in the central region and 72 percent in the south. Eighty-nine percent of the corn acreage has **emerged**, compared with 86 percent last year and 96 percent for the average. Corn **condition** is rated 58 percent good to excellent compared with 56 percent last year at this time.

Eighty-five percent of the **soybean** acreage is planted compared with 84 percent last year and 94 percent for the average. By area, 95 percent of the soybean acreage is planted in the north, 94 percent in the central region and 51 percent in the south. Seventy-two percent of the soybean acreage has **emerged** compared with 66 percent last year and 87 percent for the average.

Ninety-nine percent of the winter wheat acreage is now **headed**. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 68 percent good to excellent compared with 52 percent last year at this time. Winter wheat is turning color in many of the southern regions of the state.

Major activities during the week were spraying, side-dressing corn, moving grain to market, mowing and baling hay and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 18 percent excellent, 59 percent good, 19 percent fair, 3 percent poor and 1 percent very poor. First cutting of **alfalfa** hay is 70 percent complete compared with 70 percent last year and 83 percent for average. Setting of **tobacco** plants is 49 percent complete compared with 65 percent last year and 69 percent for average. Livestock are in mostly good condition.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
	Percent			
Corn Planted	94	92	96	99
Corn Emerged	89	82	86	96
Soybeans Planted	85	78	84	94
Soybeans Emerged	72	56	66	87
Winter Wheat Headed	99	98	99	100
Winter Wheat Harvested	0	0	2	4
Tobacco Plants Set	49	36	65	69
Alfalfa First Cutting	70	56	70	83

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
			Percent		
Corn	2	8	32	50	8
Soybean	2	8	37	47	6
Pasture	1	3	19	59	18
Winter Wheat 2003	4	10	18	51	17

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
		Percent	
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	2	2	3
Adequate	49	71	64
Surplus	49	27	33
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	4	6	1
Adequate	61	71	67
Surplus	35	23	32
Days Suitable	2.7	3.9	4.2

CONTACT INFORMATION

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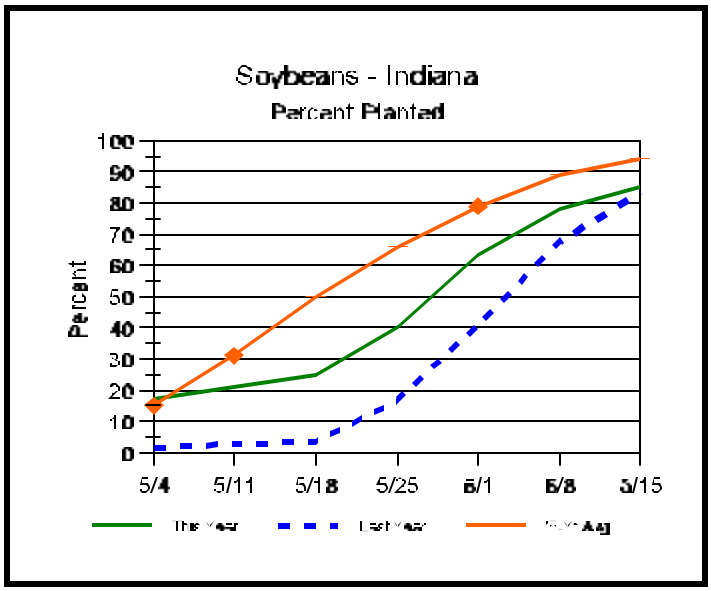
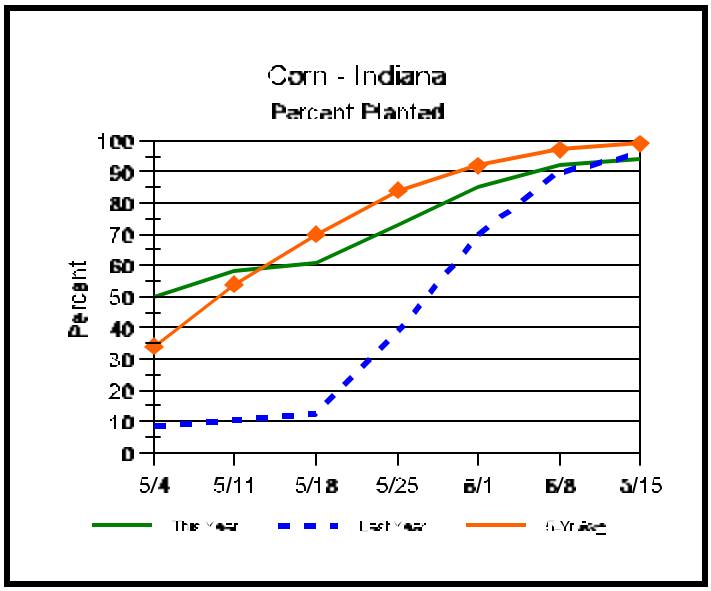
--Bud Bever, Agricultural Statistician
E-Mail Address: nass-in@nass.usda.gov
http://www.nass.usda.gov/in/index.htm

Crop Progress





Other Agricultural Comments And News

Questions on Corn Seedling Blights

The level of seedlings blights in corn this year has prompted many questions about the fungi that cause these diseases and how they operate in the field. The two most common groups of fungi attacking corn in wet cool conditions are Pythium and Fusarium. Pythium is a water mold that requires saturated soil conditions for a given period of time (usually 24 to 48 hours) to initiate disease. Pythium is present in the soil as resting structures usually associated with decomposing residue. There are several different Pythium species that attack corn seeds and roots and each operates a bit differently. Once the Pythium fungus infects the young corn seedling the fungus quickly colonizes the plant tissue (corn seed, seminal roots, nodal roots or mesocotyl), develops resting spores (oospores), and then goes into a state of relative dormancy. When another soil saturation period occurs the fungus again becomes active, attacks plants, colonizes corn roots and goes dormant. Thus, several cycles of corn infection can occur given saturated soil conditions. The corn plant limits Pythium damage by growing and producing new nodal roots.

Fusarium is generally also associated with crop residues. Fusarium can be easily obtained from year old corn, wheat and soybean residues. However, there are several species of Fusarium on these residues. Fusarium is usually spread by splashing rain at the soil surface or when roots of seedlings come in contact with infested crop residues. The fungus grows on most all tissues of seedlings, especially tissues that have been previously damaged by insects, wind, hard rain or hail and by other fungal pathogens (i.e. Pythium). Once Fusarium gets into plant tissue it continues to grow and produce spores until all the tissue is consumed, until the weather conditions become unfavorable for its growth, or until the plant restricts its development by growing more vigorously and producing new roots.

Seed treatments are designed to limit the development of Pythium and Fusarium on the seed and young seedling roots (seminal roots).

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday June 15, 2003

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil Temp	April 1, 2003 thru June 15, 2003				
								Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days		Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	81	55	69	-2	2.49	5	67	13.15	+3.68	32	654	-140
Valparaiso_AP_I	78	53	64	-5	0.65	4		10.77	+0.86	30	570	-105
Wanatah	79	50	64	-5	0.36	4	68	11.21	+1.86	32	509	-115
Wheatfield	81	53	66	-3	0.36	3		11.64	+2.43	29	596	-57
Winamac	81	54	68	-2	1.02	3	65	9.58	+0.31	29	600	-108
North Central(2)												
Plymouth	81	54	67	-4	0.68	4		9.53	-0.19	28	545	-196
South_Bend	82	53	66	-3	0.18	4		10.29	+1.24	29	576	-78
Young_America	79	56	69	+0	1.99	5		9.73	+0.69	32	690	-20
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	79	54	67	-1	1.45	6	66	11.15	+1.99	37	574	-40
Fort_Wayne	80	55	67	-3	2.46	5		12.33	+3.72	28	600	-90
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	80	52	68	-4	1.69	6		10.45	+0.17	36	670	-185
Perrysville	82	57	70	-1	1.39	5	65	9.89	-0.12	28	779	+4
Spencer_Ag	80	56	70	-1	1.75	5		11.04	+0.22	34	766	-9
Terre_Haute_AFB	83	55	71	-1	1.24	4		9.29	-0.80	27	839	-9
W_Lafayette_6NW	81	55	69	-1	2.33	6	69	12.26	+2.86	35	716	-1
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	81	55	70	-3	2.13	5		10.16	+0.77	31	788	-50
Greenfield	80	55	69	-2	1.93	6		11.25	+1.28	35	732	-46
Indianapolis_AP	82	53	71	-2	1.56	5		11.62	+2.23	29	810	-28
Indianapolis_SE	80	56	70	-2	1.86	6		11.43	+1.70	30	738	-75
Tipton_Ag	81	55	68	-1	0.61	6	70	12.06	+2.66	30	611	-64
East Central (6)												
Farmland	82	57	69	+2	1.27	6	65	9.02	-0.40	29	679	+29
New_Castle	79	55	67	-2	1.54	5		8.02	-2.44	30	564	-105
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	82	58	72	-3	3.33	5		14.43	+3.87	36	1000	-42
Freelandville	81	58	70	-2	3.11	5		14.37	+3.56	32	874	-15
Shoals	81	57	70	-1	2.95	5		14.43	+3.01	32	860	+8
Stendal	81	58	71	-3	2.14	4		16.06	+4.26	32	938	-17
Vincennes_5NE	82	55	71	-2	3.10	6	64	14.25	+3.44	37	901	+12
South Central(8)												
Leavenworth	81	57	70	-1	1.59	6		13.21	+1.74	37	883	+27
Oolitic	81	56	70	-1	3.28	7	68	13.74	+2.92	38	806	+12
Tell_City	83	61	72	-2	2.52	3		15.38	+3.73	30	1083	+111
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	81	54	70	+1	1.74	5		10.17	-0.13	32	810	+92
Milan_5NE	81	56	70	+2	2.20	6		13.12	+2.82	43	777	+59
Scottsburg	81	54	70	-2	1.99	6		15.40	+4.91	37	846	-41

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

The above weather information is provided by AWIS, Inc.
For detailed ag weather forecasts and data visit the AWIS home page at
www.awis.com or call toll free at 1-888-798-9955.

to protect the plant during the first 10 to 14 days after planting. After this time the plant is on its own. When the weather becomes wet and cool plant development slows and the fungi have an opportunity to 'feed' on the plant. Thus, as soil temperatures increase over this week and the corn begins to grow new roots, surviving plants in affected fields should begin to recover and grow more vigorously. If disease has advanced to the crown region of the plant and many nodal roots are infected, plants will likely not recover. Continue to evaluate plants over the next week or so to make sure fields have adequate stands.

Pat Lipps, Ohio State University, Wooster, OH

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